

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 13 as follows:

By employing printing plates capable of being developed on the printing press with dampening water and/or ink, typically referred to as "on-machine development type plates," as a way to improve the productivity of lithographic printing, it has been possible to dispense with a development step in which a developer is used, thereby shortening the platemaking time. Moreover, eliminating the need for a processing machine and developer ~~is known to have~~ has a number of advantages, such as lowering costs.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, final line, as follows:

However, the use of a method in which an on-machine development type plate is employed and in which development is carried out with dampening water and/or ink (see, for example, JP 2000-52634 A :the term "JP XX-XXXXXXX A" as used herein means an "unexamined published Japanese patent application") has the following drawbacks.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 6, as follows:

For example, ~~in~~ with on-machine development type plates of the sort from which non-image areas of the image recording layer are removed, after the image has been recorded, the image recording layer in non-image areas is removed with dampening water and/or ink, leaving the hydrophilic surface of the plate exposed. Yet, instead of being completely removed, residues of the image recording layer sometimes continue to adhere to the plate surface in non-image areas.